

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1-4, 6-30 and 41-44 are pending in the application. Claim 16 has been amended to fix a typographical error. Claims 20-29 and 41-43 have been withdrawn. Claims 31-40 have been cancelled.

#### **Claim rejections-35 U.S.C. § 112**

Claims 1-4, 6, 8-19, 30 and 44 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. The Examiner mentions that the presence of glyoxal is essential and requests that the claims specify said essential element. In this regard, the Applicants submit that claim 1 has been amended in order to define that the composition comprises 0.0001 – 3 % glyoxal. In order to avoid redundancy, former claim 5 has been canceled. Reconsideration of Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is earnestly requested.

Claims 4-8 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner alleges that the rejected claims are vague and indefinite for reciting "or polyamine containing polymer" which broadens the claims. Further, the Examiner also mentions that claim 18 is vague because the claim recites elements that are not cells. The Applicants submit that claim 4 has been amended in order to delete the objected-to expression. In addition, claim 18 has been amended to delete the elements which are not cells. Reconsideration of Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is earnestly requested.

#### **Claim rejections-35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-3 and 13-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by WO 02/00272.

The Applicants wish to respectfully submit two declarations under 37 CFR 1.132 showing that the reference cited was not by "another", thus disqualifying this document from being prior art, so rendering moot the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 (a) over WO 02/00272. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection is earnestly solicited.

It is submitted, therefore, that the claims are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the Examiner's rejections is respectfully requested. Allowance of claims 1-4, 6-19, 30 and 44 at an early date is solicited.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Should any fee deficiencies be associated with this submission, the Commissioner is authorized to debit such deficiencies to the Nixon Peabody Deposit Account No. 50-0850. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enc.: Petition for extension of time  
Declaration by inventors (2)